Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3277

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJECK: ROUND-UP OF POLITICAL EVENTS

1. SUMMARY. UNITA AND FNLA APPEALED TO CHIPENDA TO JOIN ONE OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND TO THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO SACK

THE PRO-MPLA GOVERNOR OF MOCAMEDES. JOHNNY EDUARDO TOOK A HARD LINE ON STRIKES AND THREATENED TO USE FORCE TO END THEM. END SUMMARY.

2. RELATIVE POLITICAL CALM HAS RETURNED TO LUANDA AFTER THE DESTABILIZING EVENTS OF FEBRUARY THIRTEEN AND SUBSEQUENT FNLA REACTION. COMMUNIQUES ARE A BIT MORE MUTED. THE GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, HAS YET TO SHOW ANY INCLINATION TO TAKE CHARGE OR TO DO ANYTHING MORE THAN APPEAL FOR POPULAR SUPPORT FOR ITS GOALS. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS NOT MADE ANY PUBLIC APPEARANCES OR STATEMENTS FOR A WEEK, ALTHOUGH HE IS THE UNSEEN FORCE TRYING TO CONCILIATE THE DIVERGENT VIEWS OF THE THREE MOVEMENTS.

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3. IN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE FNLA AND UNITA DELEGATIONS IN MOCAMEDES

HAVE CALLED FOR THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO SACK THE GOVERNOR OF MOCAMEDES DISTRICT FOR PARTIALITY TO MPLA AND HIS INABILITY TO MAINTAIN ORDER IN THE DISTRICT. IN THE SAME COMMUNIQUE THE TWO MOVEMENTS ASKED THEIR MPLA COUNTER-PARTS IN THE DISTRICT TO CEASE TAKING STEPS THAT WILL CAUSE A "POISONOUS BREECH" BETWEEN THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

4. JOHNNY EDUARDO, FNLA'S MEMBER ON THEPRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL, VISITED STRIKING COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN IN LUANDA ON FEBRUARY 18. IN AN IMPROMTU SPEECH CARRIED ON THE RADIO HE SYMPATHIZED WITH THEIR PROBLEMS BUT TOLD THEM TO STOP THE VIOLENCE AND TO ORGANIZE THEMSELVES INTO A UNION, THEN TO PRESENT THEIR DEMANDS TO THE GOVERNMENT WHO WOULD GIVE THEM PRIORITY ATTENTION. HE THREATENED TO BRING IN OTHER WORKERS TO TAKE OVER THE JOBS OF THE FISHING FLEET IF THEIR STRIKE DIDN'T END OR TO CALL IN FNLA TROOPS TO END THE STRIKE. HE ALSO ATTACKED THOSE DOCK WORKERS WHOSE LAZY WORK HABITS HAVE TIED UP LUANDA AND LOBITO PORTS. HE APPEALED TO ALL WORKERS TO UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEMS FACING THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND TO GIVE IT TIME TO RESOLVE THEM. HE BROADLY HINTED THAT OTHER, UNNAMED, PRIORITIES WOULD PRECLUDE ANY GREAT WAGE INCREASE FOR WORKERS.

5. IN SEPARATE APPEALS, UNITA AND FNLA DELEGATIONS IN LUANDA CALLED UPON DANIEL CHIPENDA TO UNITE WITH SOME MOVEMENT. UNITA AGAIN OFFERED ITS GOOD OFFICES TO MEDIATE THE DISPUTE. THERE HAS BEEN NO REACTION FROM CHIPENDA TO THE ATTACK ON HIS HEADQUARTERS LAST WEEK NOR TO THE APPEALS FOR HIM TO CHOOSE A GROUP. KILLORAN

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